

\eg\Bartbern
Nov. 22, 1994

Why does Bart question whether Ike's account of his discussion with Stimson is correct?

--"I don't doubt that Ike came to believe that he had opposed dropping the bomb on Hiroshima before the attack, and that he had expressed this to Stimson. However, his memory became clearer each time he recalled it, over the years.

Stimson's diary for the day at Potsdam when they had their discussion records only a "pleasant discussion"--contradicting Ike's memory of Stimson becoming very angry at his opposition to the Bomb.

However, Bart acknowledges that John Eisenhower told him that when he saw Ike that evening, Ike seemed depressed, and that he had conjectured (then?) that it was because of the news about the plan to drop the Bomb. [When did Ike first know about S-1?]

As for the cable to Vinson (BB says, Bradley; different cable?) that is mentioned by Ambrose in mid-July, BB says he came across this and that it was irrelevant.

on Bradley's memoirs: these were entirely (?) written after Bradley's death, on the basis of notes, documents and discussions with Bradley. The biographer admitted to BB that he had never discussed the alleged Ike-Truman discussion with Bradley (or Ike's attitude on the Bomb) but that he had inferred it "from published accounts." BB is familiar, he believes, with all published documents on these matters and this is confirmed by none; the writer simply assumed that some such discussion must have taken place, and that he could reconstruct what Ike would have said, and that Bradley might have been there. (!) Useless as history.

However, BB agrees that it is significant that Ike always did express his disapproval of the Bomb being dropped, and on that basis he went along with the History Group's recommendation that the memoir quote be restored to the exhibit.